

Monday, May 24, 2021

Kisha Laurent Gaudin, MAOM, CET  
The City of New Orleans  
Department of Public Works  
1300 Perdido Street – Suite 6W03  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

**Re: Louisiana Board of Ethics  
Docket No. 2021-242**

Dear Mrs. Gaudin:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics (“Board”), at its June 4, 2021 meeting, considered your request for an advisory opinion as to whether the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics (“Code”) would prohibit Khalid Saleh’s continued employment with the City of New Orleans – Department of Public Works (“DPW”) as the Project Manager Supervisor while his son, Lufti Saleh is employed with International Logistical Support, who has existing contracts with DPW.

### **FACTS PROVIDED**

Khalid Saleh is employed by the DPW as the Project Manager Supervisor. In this capacity, he is responsible for the design and review of various contracts and projects with the DPW. Khalid Saleh directly supervises DPW’s Senior Project Managers and Project Managers. Khalid Saleh’s agency is the Operations Division, where he is supervised by the Deputy Director of Operations.

Lufti Saleh, Khalid Saleh’s son, is employed by ILSI Engineering (“ILSI”) as a resident inspector. Lufti Saleh has been employed with ILSI for eighteen (18) months and possesses no ownership interest in ILSI. ILSI is an independent contractor with an active contract with DPW that was executed three (3) years ago. Additionally, ILSI has multiple federal contracts within the Joint Infrastructure Recovery Request (JIRR) Program.

### **LAW**

**La. R.S. 42:1113(A)(1)(a)** states no public servant, excluding any legislator and any appointed member of any board of commission and any member of a governing authority of a parish with a population of ten thousand or less, or member of such a public servant’s immediate family, or legal entity in which he has a controlling interest shall bid on or enter

into any contract, subcontract, or other transaction that is under the supervision or jurisdiction of the agency of such public servant.

**La. R.S. 42:1114** provides that each public servant and each member of his immediate family who derives anything of economic value, directly, through any transaction involving the agency of such public servant or who derives anything of economic value of which he may be reasonably expected to know through a person which (1) is regulated by the agency of such public servant, or (2) has bid on or entered into or is in any way financially interested in any contract, subcontract, or any transaction under the supervision or jurisdiction of the agency of such public servant shall disclose certain information as set forth in Section 1114.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that based on the facts presented, the Code does not prohibit Khalid Saleh's continued employment with DPW as the Project Manager Supervisor while his son, Lufti Saleh is employed with International Logistical Support, who has existing contracts with the DPW. Lufti Saleh does not possess a controlling interest in ILSI. Therefore, the continued employment of Khalid Saleh would not violate La. R.S. 42:1113(A)(1)(a). Additionally, Lufti Saleh would be required to disclose the income that he receives from the DPW, pursuant to La. R.S. 42:1114.

This advisory opinion is based solely on the facts as set forth herein. Changes to the facts as presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics. The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or as to laws other than the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics, the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act, the Lobbyist Disclosure Act, and the conflict of interest provisions contained in the Louisiana Gaming Control Law. If you have any questions, please contact me at (800) 842-6630 or (225) 219-5600.

Sincerely,  
**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**

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LaToya D. Jordan  
For the Board